

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 006516
ORIGIN OES-07

INFO OCT-01 ARA-10 ISO-00 NSF-01 SS-15 DOE-11 SOE-02
EB-08 /055 R

DRAFTED BY OES/APT/BMP:CGORSEY:MJ
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-----111311 110616Z /11
R 102220Z JAN 78
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY BRASILIA

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: TECH, ENRG, TGEN, BR

SUBJECT: CONSULTATIVE MECHANISM - TECHNICAL SUBGROUPS

REF: A) BRASILIA 10554; B) BRASILIA 5149

1. BECAUSE OF SPECIAL INITIATIVES IN THE ENERGY AREA
CURRENTLY UNDER CONSIDERATION AND IN THE EARLY PREPARA-
TORY STAGE, IT IS UNLIKELY THAT A MEETING OF THE ENERGY
TECHNOLOGY GROUP COULD BE READIED BEFORE THE END OF MARCH.
THUS ANY MEETING BEFORE THAT DATE WOULD BE LIMITED TO THE
JOINT GROUP ON SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY.

2. WHILE DEPARTMENT NOT ADVERSE TO S&T MEETING, BEFORE
REACHING FINAL DECISION WOULD LIKE EMBASSY EXPLORE
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PAGE 02 STATE 006516

BRAZILIAN INTENTIONS AND PRELIMINARY AGENDA.

3. AT 1976 MEETING, BRAZILIANS BROUGHT UP SUBJECTS WHICH
WERE MORE GENERAL (SUCH AS TECHNOLOGY TRANSFER, S&T LOAN
BY INTERNATIONAL LENDING INSTITUTIONS) THAN THOSE USUALLY
TAKEN UP AT BILATERAL MEETINGS. WE CONSIDER IT LIKELY
THAT BRAZILIANS WOULD WANT AN INCREASE IN U.S.-SPONSORED

S&T ACTIVITIES TO FILL GAP LEFT BY PHASE-OUT OF AID PROGRAM. HOWEVER, NSF PROGRAM UNLIKELY TO INCREASE SIGNIFICANTLY AND IT IS DOUBTFUL THAT OTHER U.S. AGENCIES HAVE

RESOURCES WHICH THEY WOULD DEVOTE TO BRAZIL. WE WOULD, HOWEVER, DISCUSS THIS FURTHER WITH INTERESTED U.S. AGENCIES.

4. WHILE WE RECOGNIZE POLITICAL BENEFITS WHICH COULD ARISE IF MEETING WERE HELD, THESE BENEFITS MIGHT BE LOST IF MEETING WERE UNPRODUCTIVE, I.E. IF NO INCREASE IN U.S. ACTIVITY WAS FORTHCOMING. ACCORDINGLY WE WOULD APPRECIATE EMBASSY COMMENT ON THIS MATTER.

5. IN ANY EVENT, PRESENT DEPARTMENT AND NSF SCHEDULE, TOGETHER WITH NEED TO PREPARE FOR MEETING, MAKE FEBRUARY, MARCH DATE DIFFICULT. WE WOULD SUGGEST ALTERNATIVE OF APRIL, MAY OR JUNE, PREFERABLY THE LATTER.

6. RESPONSE TO QUESTION RAISED PARA 2 REF A AS TO EMBASSY'S ROLE DEPENDS ON EMBASSY'S ASSESSMENT OF QUESTIONS RAISED ABOVE. VANCE

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